

Australian Regolith Geoscientists Association (ARGA) Annual General Meeting

Wednesday February 10th 2016
Thredbo Alpine Hotel, Thredbo, NSW

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

The meeting was opened by President Vanessa Wong at 1.50 pm.

Apologies were received for Peter Fogarty, Patrice de Caritat, Graham Taylor, Brad Pillans, Andrew McPherson, Pauline English, Alie Cowood, and Margi Sweeney.

Present: Matilda Thomas, Lisa Worrall, Jon Clarke, Savannah McGuirk, Ian Roach, Carmen Krapf, Georgina Gordon, John Keeling, Vanessa Wong, Ken McQueen, Nadir de Souza Kovacs, John Gallant, and Leah Moore.

2. Adoption of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting

There was no AGM in 2015 in an oversight of the Committee.

Matilda Thomas to circulate AGM minutes from 2014.

3. Matters arising from Minutes not dealt with elsewhere

Carmen raised ARGA's response to the UNCOVER initiative.

4. Correspondence

Nil to report.

5. Finances

Treasurer John Keeling tabled the ARGA financial position report:

As at February 5 2016.

Note	05 Feb 2016 \$	30 June 2013 \$
Current assets		
Cash		
Westpac Community Solutions	22,867.97	26,032.65
Cash reserve account	6,466.14	3,495.02
Westpac deposit account		
Non current assets		
Property, investments etc	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	29,334.11	29,527.67
Current liabilities		
Payables – nil		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-
NET ASSETS	29,334.11	29,527.67

Statement of income and expenditure

As at February 5 2016

Note	05 Feb 2016 \$	30 June 2013 \$
Income		
Membership	9.00	-
Conference registrations	9,300.00	-
Bank interest	1,428.80	819.78
Donations	2,000.00	
Net operating income	12,737.80	819.78
Expenditure		
Administration, website	417.90	-
Conference expenses		
Bunbury	6,214.76	1,188.32
Thredbo	5,943.00	
Mail box	354.00	500.00
Audit and account fees	1.70	161.00
Net operating expenses	12,931.36	1,849.32
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	(193.56)	(930.54)
Opening cash	29,527.67	30,458.21
CLOSING CASH	29,334.11	29,527.67

The treasurer reported that there are still some conference payments to be received and most outgoings for the conference have been paid already.

Lisa Worrall moved that the treasurer's report is accepted, Ken McQueen seconded.

The possibility of putting some money into an interest-earning savings account was raised. It was reported that ARGA currently has two accounts, one earning some interest.

Auditing requirements for ARGA were also raised. It was reported that ARGA is incorporated in South Australia and does not have enough assets to be required to be audited.

The current membership of ARGA stands at about 120 members. Members from the Australian Clay Minerals Society who received free membership from the 2014 ARGA conference will drop off the membership list this month.

6. Election of new committee

Vanessa Wong as retiring president called for nominations for the committee from the floor.

Treasurer: John Keeling (unanimous)

Secretary: Andrew McPherson (unanimous)

President: Leah Moore (nominated by Matilda Thomas, seconded by Vanessa Wong, carried)

Vice president: Vanessa Wong (as retiring, immediate past President), Vanessa automatically assumed the role of Vice President, as per the ARGA rules

Website: Ian Roach (unanimous)

Student representative: Margi Sweeney (temporary)

Conference organiser: Carmen Krapf (unanimous)

Ordinary members: Stephanie McLennan, Nadir de Souza Kovacs, Ian Roach.

Carmen Krapf proposed the next conference to be in South Australia, near Port Augusta. Possible dates were discussed and the ongoing difficulty of finding a date that suits academics, students, government, and others.

7. Other business

There was concern raised with the future of ARGA.

Why is ARGA not a specialist group of the Geological Society of Australia (GSA) – this would require ARGA members to also be members of the GSA, which is considerably more expensive than ARGA membership. Being a specialist group also comes with considerable administrative expense. It could also isolate ARGA members who are not geologists and could narrow the reach of the association.

Concerns were raised over the lack of interest in the association and that it could die-out.

There is an UNCOVER symposium at the upcoming Australian Earth Sciences Convention in Adelaide but not regolith session or representation from ARGA.

The possibility was raised of ARGA affiliating with another group, not necessarily the GSA.

It was suggested that a piece on the 2016 ARGA conference is written for the Australian Institute of Geoscientists Newsletter and also the GSA newsletter. Ken McQueen volunteered to write a short article.

MTEC courses will now be run by the University of Adelaide.

Action items:

Investigate the potential for running an MTEC regolith course

Investigate the potential for running an AIG course

8. Meeting close

Outgoing President Vanessa Wong acknowledged the committee and particularly Matilda Thomas for contributions to organising the 2016 conference. She thanked presenters and attendees for making the conference interesting and cross-disciplinary, in the spirit of regolith science. The meeting was closed at 2.55 pm.

Name (Position):

Signature:

Date: